GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:193
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Income of Farmers
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA);Devi Smt. Veena

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any "Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers" to assess the average annual/monthly/per capita income of farmers in the country and if so, the details and the outcome thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is considering to set up any Income Commission for Farmers on the line of Pay Commission for Central Government Employees in the country and if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said Commission is likely to be set up;

(c) whether unemployment is increasing in the agriculture sector and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to launch any schemes to provide financial and technological support/package to small, marginal and medium farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is planning to promote public-private partnership for cooperative farming in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the suggestions received from the experts and the initiatives taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 193 DUE FOR REPLY ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016.

(a) 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' were conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) in 2003 and 2013. The first 'Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers' was conducted in rural areas of the country during NSS 59th round (January 2003-December 2003). Thereafter, during the 70th round, a repeat survey 'Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households' was conducted for the reference period of the agricultural year July 2012 to June 2013. The objective of both the surveys, inter-alia, was to assess the income and expenditure of the agricultural households.

As per the results of the latest Survey, the average income per agricultural household from various sources is estimated at Rs. 6,426/- per month during the reference period of the agricultural year July 2012 to June 2013. Details of State/ UT-wise average monthly income per agricultural household is given in the Annexure.

(b): No, Madam.

(c): The total number of workers engaged in agriculture in the country, as per Census 2011, witnessed an increase of 12 per cent during the last decade, i.e., from 234.1 million in 2001 to 263.1 million in 2011. Moreover, the implementation of rural employment generation schemes, like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has added to employment opportunities in non-farm activities.

(d): Government is implementing a number of schemes to provide financial support/ incentive to the farmers, including small, marginal and medium farmers in the country. These schemes include, inter-alia, provision for supply of seeds, plant protection
Contdâ€¦2/-

chemicals, nutrients (secondary, micro and bio-nutrients), agriculture machinery and equipments, agricultural credit, etc., at subsidized rates to the farmers with special focus on small, marginal and medium farmers. Institutional support is being provided to the farmers through low crop insurance premium rates.

The technological support to the farmers is provided through a vast network of about 650 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The KVKs carry out the work of frontline demonstrations and extension services.

(e): Agriculture is a state subject, and primary responsibility of the state government. However, Union Government supplements the efforts of the state governments. A Model Act on Agricultural Land Leasing has been prepared to facilitate the States to enact their own Land Leasing Act. The Act may facilitate land leasing to group farming on the pattern of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) and

Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs).